Axecutive Aroclamation State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, Since the first Pony Express rider made the rounds from Saint Joseph, Missouri to Sacramento in April of 1860, rural letter carriers have been providing a valuable service nationwide as a "post office on wheels"; and,

WHEREAS, Many of the early post offices were located on farms, ranches or in small settlements and frequently their locations would change whenever there was a clange in postmasters; and,

WHEREAS, Although the early rural mail delivery, which began on October 1, 1896, in Charles Town, West Virginia, was rudimentary and small, it still provided a vital link to the outside world for its agrarian patrons; and,

WHEREAS, As these small towns grew, so did their post offices, and citizens' reliance on the rure! letter carrier became another one of life's necessities; and,

WHEREAS, Today, rural letter carriers keep millions of people in touch with friends they rarely see, allow agribusinessmen the chance to conduct business without ever leaving the farm, and provide necessary contact to the world-at-large for people in sparsely populated areas; and,

WHEREAS, This August, the National Rural Letter Carriers Association and Auxiliary are celebrating 85 years of service at their 78th National Convention in Rapid City, South Dakota:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 1 through 6, 1982, as

NATIONAL RURAL LETTER CARRIER WEEK

in South Dakota, and I wish to thank rural letter carriers everywhere for giving Americans the inalienable right, no matter where we live, to own and operate our very own mailboxes.



IN WITHESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Picrre, the Capital City, this Fourth Day of June, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Two

WILLIAM J. JANISLOW, GOVERNOR

ALICE KUNDERT, SECRETARY OF STATE